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of the sanitary commission have appealed to their respective embassies, in order to accomplish through diplomatic channels, the repeal of the quarantine.

ITALY.

*Report from Naples.*

NAPLES, ITALY, *December 12, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report for the week ended December 12, 1900, the following ships were inspected:

December 7, the Italian steamship *Balilla*, bound in ballast for Norfolk, Virginia. December 9, the steamship *Fürst Bismarck*, of the Hamburg-American Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 627 steerage passengers and 227 pieces of large and 800 pieces of small baggage; 141 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam. December 10, the steamship *Patria*, of the Fabre Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 958 steerage passengers, and 230 pieces of large and 1,213 pieces of small baggage; 156 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,  
*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

JAPAN.

*Plague in Osaka—Extension to other kens.*

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *December 4, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that, since my report of November 30, 3, if not 4, cases of plague have occurred in Osaka and its environs.

The disease has extended to 2 new districts, viz, the ken of Wakayama, a short distance east of Osaka, and that of Tokushima, in the northern part of the island of Kiushiu. In both these districts the evidence of the transmission of infection from Osaka seems clear. So far, 5 cases are reported from Wakayama and 1 from Tokushima.

As Wakayama and the island of Kiushiu are the great orange growing regions of Japan, from whence the product is sent all over the country, as well as, to some extent, abroad, the Japanese Government is contemplating the interdiction of the export of this fruit from the infected areas. Under the circumstances, I have prohibited the shipment to United States territory of oranges, the origin and packing of which can not be satisfactorily shown to have been outside of infected or suspected districts.

Prophylactic serum has been ordered from the hygienic laboratory at Tokyo, in quantity sufficient to inoculate 200,000 people in the newly attacked provinces.

It is officially reported that, from June 19, to November 5, 1900, 176,818 rats were destroyed in Osaka.

A conference of sanitarians and quarantine officials is now sitting in Tokyo, under the order of the home department, with the object, if it be possible, of devising some method of combating the plague more effective for its extermination than that hitherto employed.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*